Message Text

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R 271415Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6702 INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL JIDDA 8317

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PDIP, SA, UK

SUBJECT: BIO DATA ON NEW SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN FAISAL

AL-HUJAILAN

1. THE NEW SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES, FAISAL AL-HUJAILAN, IS IN HIS EARLY 50'S. DURING THE MID-1950'S HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SAUDI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WHERE, AS A BACHELOR, HE HAD A REPUTATION AS A HIGH LIVER. HE WAS ASSIGNED AS AMEBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA FROM 1969 TO 1974. ACCORDING TO THE VENEZUELAN CHARGE IN JIDDA HIS TOUR IN CARACAS WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL. HE WAS AN EXTREMELY POPULAR AMBASSADOR. HIS PARTIES, GIVEN IN HIS SUMPTUOUS MANSION NICKNAMED "THE HOUSE OF 1001 NIGHTS" AND GRACED BY HIS CHARMING WIFE NURA, WERE LEGENDARY. AT THE END OF HIS STAY IN CARACAS, HE RECEIVED A HIGH DECORATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.

- 2. AFTER CARACAS, HUJAILAN WAS ASSIGNED TO DENMARK AS AMBASSADOR. IN SHORT ORDER HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO BEIRUT BUT WAS PREVENTED FROM PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS BECAUSE OF THE CIVIL STRIFE IN LATE 1975.
- 3. HUJAILAN DRINKS, AND SMOKES. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT. CONFIDENTIAL

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HIS WIFE, NURA, IS OF LEBANESE ORIGIN. HE IS NOT RELATED TO THE SAUDI AMBASSASOR TO PARIS, JAMIL AL-HUJAILAN.

4. EMBASSY CARACAS MAY WISH TO COMMENT. PORTER

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